

ABSTRACT

A gateway **11** for using non-IP digital telephone handsets **10** with an IP call controller ("PBX") **12, 24, 42**. The gateway may be implemented to work with any non-IP digital telephone handset and any IP call controller. The call controller may be a public protocol IP
5 Centrex call controller **24** or a proprietary protocol call controller **12, 42**. The gateway is programmable so that a single hardware unit can be programmed after it is plugged in to work with any such devices. The programming is accomplished via IP download from a server on the global IP network **23**. The gateway may be implemented as a plug in card **40**
10 for an IP call controller **42** that accepts plug in cards. Alternatively, it may be implemented to work with remote IP call controllers **12, 42**. In this latter configuration, the gateway may include a router for other IP devices which is designed to give voice quality preference to the telephone handsets over other IP devices.